



**2013-1**

**WHEREAS**, the elected Sheriff is recognized throughout the United States as the chief local law enforcement officer and is directly accountable to the people through the electoral process; and

**WHEREAS**, all sheriffs take an oath of office to enforce and defend the United States Constitution and state constitution and laws; and

**WHEREAS**, a primary mission of sheriffs is to ensure public safety; and

**WHEREAS**, gun safety is vitally important to our nation's public health and the 3,080 sheriffs of this nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the cause of violence, including gun violence, must be addressed on many fronts, including improved mental health treatment, media violence, drugs, gangs, breakdown of the family, strengthening laws that prevent or reduce the access of legally prohibited persons to firearms and vigorous enforcement of existing laws; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Sheriffs' Association represents the interests of all sheriffs who are sworn to support and defend the United States Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, sheriffs strongly support our citizens' protected right to bear arms under the Second Amendment and the National Sheriffs' Association does not support any laws that deprive any citizen of the rights provided under the Constitution and Bill of Rights; and

**WHEREAS**, the doctrine of judicial review grants to the United States Supreme Court and the lower courts the power to determine the constitutionality of any law and sheriffs do not possess the legal authority to interpret the constitutionality of any law;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the National Sheriffs' Association supports the rights conferred by the Second Amendment and further recognizes the ultimate authority of the courts in interpreting the scope of those constitutional rights.